

# Community Service Learning Program

The Community Service Learning (CSL) program strives to provide youth with the means to give back to their community while acquiring job readiness and life skills. The program consists of three consecutive levels, guiding participants from introductory CSL projects to youth designed projects, culminating in educational and/or job placement.

## Level I

The introductory level focuses on familiarizing participants with the concept of community service learning. The goals are contribution to the community, understanding of the issues being addressed, working within a team towards a common goal, and basic employability skills such as punctuality and communication.

### ACTIVITIES

- Adopt-A-Spot
- Food Drive
- Tree Planting
- Community Garden

### INCENTIVES

- YO! tee shirt
- Lunch
- Raffle prizes
- Prerequisite to enter Level II

### MINIMUM COMMITMENT

- 5 hours

## Level II

The secondary level builds on Level I skills, giving participants the opportunity to assess the needs of their community and plan, develop, implement and evaluate a CSL project addressing a specific local issue. The goals are youth empowerment, further development of job readiness skills (i.e. time management, problem solving, teamwork) and completion of a polished resume.

### ACTIVITIES

- Needs assessment
- CSL project development
- Employability training

### INCENTIVES

- YO! day planner
- Individual resume
- Certificate of completion
- Raffle prizes
- Advance to Level III

### MINIMUM COMMITMENT

- 4 weeks: 2 times per week and 2-3 weekend days (~30 hours)

## Level III

The final level utilizes the participant's skill development within the context of employment and/or secondary school. The goals are career exploration, creation of an industry standard product and building the participant's sense of personal accountability.

### ACTIVITIES

- Arts Street
- Parks job program
- Summer youth employment program
- Curtis Park work experience program
- DAYS
- Mi Casa

### INCENTIVES

- Hourly wage (\$6.59/hr.)
- References and resume development

### MINIMUM COMMITMENT

- 8 weeks: 20 hours per week